FEE TRANSMITTAL for FY 2005

Effective 10/01/2004. Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT

(\$)	130.0

	Complete if Known	
Application Number	10/729,536	
Filing Date	December 5, 2003	
First Named Inventor	Nomoto, Toyohiro	
Examiner Name	Unassigned	
Art Unit	2122	
Attorney Docket No.	16869N-102100US	

METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)							FEE CALCULATION (continued)						
Che	eck	Credit	Card	Money Order Other	None	3. AD	DITION	L FEE	ES				
Dep	oosit Ac	count:				Large	Entity	Small	Entity				
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Account Townsend and Townsend and Crew LLP				1053	130	1053	130	Non-English specification					
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Charge any additional fee(s) or any underpayment of fee(s) Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee to the above-identified deposit account.							1,840*	1805	1,840*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action			
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	90	2001	395	Utility filing fee		1255	2.080	2255	1.040	Extension for reply within fifth	month		
1002 3	350	2002	175	Design filing fee		1401	340	2401	170	Notice of Appeal			
1003 5	50	2003	275	Plant filing fee		1402	340	2402	170	Filing a brief in support of an appe			
1004 7	90	2004	395	Reissue filing fee		1403	300	2403	150	Request for oral hearing			
1005 1	60	2005	80	Provisional filing fee		1451	1,510	1451	1,510	Petition to institute a public us proceeding	se		
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						1501	1,370	2501	685	Utility issue fee (or reissue)			
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SUBMITTED BY Complete (if applicable)									
Name (Print/Type)	Chun-Pok Leung	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	41,405	Telephone	650-326-2400				
Signature		Ch /64		Date	November 19, 2004				

Attorney Docket No.: 16869N-102100US

Client Ref. No.: NT1374US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner: Unassigned

Confirmation No.: 1904

Technology Center/Art Unit: 2122

PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL FOR

§ 708.02, VIII & 37 C.F.R. § 1.102(d)

NEW APPLICATION UNDER M.P.E.P.

In re application of:

TOYOHIRO NOMOTO et al.

Application No.: 10/729,536

Filed: December 5, 2003

For: DATA CONVERSION METHOD

AND COMPUTER SYSTEM

THEREFOR

Customer No.: 20350

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is a petition to make special the above-identified application under MPEP § 708.02, VIII & 37 C.F.R. § 1.102(d). The application has not received any examination by an Examiner.

(a) The Commissioner is authorized to charge the petition fee of \$130 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) and any other fees associated with this paper to Deposit Account 20-1430.

11/26/2004 HALI11 00000080 201430 10729536

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- (b) All the claims are believed to be directed to a single invention. If the Office determines that all the claims presented are not obviously directed to a single invention, then Applicants will make an election without traverse as a prerequisite to the grant of special status.
- (c) Pre-examination searches were made of U.S. issued patents, including a classification search, a foreign patent database search, and a literature search. The searches were performed on or around October 6, 2004, and were conducted by a professional search firm, Mattingly, Stanger & Malur, P.C. The classification search covered Class 341 (subclass 87), Class 707 (subclasses 4, 5, 101, and 104.1), and 715 (subclass 523). Because of the large size of these subclasses, keywords were used to narrow of number of documents returned. The foreign patent database search was conducted using Espacenet in international subclass G06F17/30B2, directed to file format conversion for database management and structures. The literature search was performed using DIALOG online databases. The inventors further provided one reference considered most closely related to the subject matter of the present application (see reference #8), which were cited in the Information Disclosure Statement filed on December 5, 2003.
- (d) The following references, copies of which are attached herewith, are deemed most closely related to the subject matter encompassed by the claims:
 - (1) U.S. Patent No. 5,493,671;
 - (2) U.S. Patent No. 5,708,828;
 - (3) U.S. Patent No. 6,161,103;
 - (4) U.S. Patent No. 6,643,649 B2;
 - (5) U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0161754 A1;
 - (6) U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0055820 A1;
 - (7) U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0002983 A1; and
 - (8) Japanese Patent Publication No. JP 2001-022764.

(e) Set forth below is a detailed discussion of references which points out with particularity how the claimed subject matter is distinguishable over the references.

A. Claimed Embodiments of the Present Invention

The claimed embodiments relate to a data conversion method that is suitable for use in a large scale database, and that enables a reduction in load of a data conversion server as well as an easy design of a conversion program.

Independent claim 1 recites a data conversion method for converting table data of a database. The method comprises separating a data conversion job used for data conversion into a data conversion server job for executing conversion processing on a data conversion server and a storage job for instructing a copy of a table on storage; executing the storage job to instruct the storage to copy the table; and executing the data conversion server job to perform data conversion of the copied table.

Independent claim 5 recites a computer system comprising a database conversion server for converting a table of a database; and storage for storing the database. The database conversion server has table volume mapping information that associates the table of the database with storage information about storage in which the table is stored. The database conversion server is configured, with reference to the table volume mapping information, to separate a data conversion job used for data conversion into a data conversion server job for executing conversion processing on the database conversion server and a storage job for instructing a copy of the table on the storage; to execute the storage job to instruct a copy of a volume containing the table; and to execute the data conversion server job to perform data conversion of the copied table.

Independent claim 6 recites a database conversion server for converting a table of a database, the database conversion server being connected to storage for storing the database. The database conversion server comprises a module configured to separate a data conversion job definition used for data conversion into a data conversion server job definition for executing conversion processing on the database conversion server and a storage job definition for instructing a copy of the table on the storage; a module configured to request a job execution engine to execute the storage job definition, and thereby the storage is instructed to copy the table; and a module configured to request the job execution engine to

execute the data conversion server job definition, and thereby only fields which need to be converted are extracted from the copied table, and then the extracted fields are converted.

Independent claim 10 recites a data conversion program for converting table data of a database. The data conversion program comprises code for separating a data conversion job definition used for data conversion into a data conversion server job definition for executing conversion processing on a data conversion server and a storage job definition for instructing a copy of a table on storage; code for requesting a job execution engine to execute the storage job definition, and thereby the storage is instructed to copy the table; and code for requesting the job execution engine to execute the data conversion server job definition to perform data conversion of the copied table.

One of the benefits that may be derived is that it reduces the load of a data conversion server when converting data of a database, and enables a designer of a data conversion job to easily design the data conversion job.

B. <u>Discussion of the References</u>

None of the following references disclose separating a data conversion job used for data conversion into a data conversion server job for executing conversion processing on a data conversion server and a storage job for instructing a copy of a table on storage; executing the storage job to instruct the storage to copy the table; and executing the data conversion server job to perform data conversion of the copied table.

1. U.S. Patent No. 5,493,671

This reference discloses a method and an apparatus for conversion of database data into a different format on a field-by-field basis using a table of conversion procedures. A file management element converts information from the first database for storage in the second database. Thus, it does not teach dividing the conversion process into a storage copying job and a server conversion job.

2. <u>U.S. Patent No. 5,708,828</u>

This reference discloses a system for converting data from a first type to a generic type, and then to a second type, by defining a complete data map of the input and output data environments, and creating a logical association bridge between the input and

output environments (see Figs. 2 and 3). The server performs the entire data conversion job and, accordingly, there is no division of the conversion process into a storage job and a server job.

3. <u>U.S. Patent No. 6,161,103</u>

This reference discloses a datamart system in which data is automatically extracted and converted by accessing a schema definition for the datamart. A set of table creation commands and table access commands are generated from the schema definition, and lead to the generation of a set of aggregate commands for generating an aggregate table. Thus, it does not teach the division of a data conversion job into a server job and a storage job.

4. U.S. Patent No. 6,643,649 B2

This reference discloses a utility for cross-platform database queries in which a set of data items is obtained from a library server and placed in a temporary table. The utility obtains each data item from the temporary table and a base object table, and converts them, if conversion is required, so that each data item from the temporary table and the base object table may be compared. The object server performs the conversion, and there is no division of the data conversion process into a server job and a storage job.

5. <u>U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0161754 A1</u>

This reference relates to a method for accessing database table columns in which the data type stored in a column is determined, and the data type is converted to a second data before outputting the data. Thus, it does not teach the copying of a table by a storage job and conversion of data by a server job.

6. <u>U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0055820 A1</u>

This reference discloses a process for automating database conversion. The conversion process includes running a first program and then two batch command file programs. It does not teach separation of the process into a server job and a storage job.

7. <u>U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0002983 A1</u>

This reference discloses a database modifying method. Tables to be modified in terms of addition of columns, or the like, are outputted during an extraction process, and a combination of tables having a minimized total number of records to be modified is selected from possible combinations of modification-candidate tables. It does not teach the copying of a table by a storage job and conversion of data by a server job.

8. <u>Japanese Patent Publication No. JP 2001-022764</u>

This reference discloses a device and a method to prevent work from being tried again because of arrangement error or erroneous arrangement by describing the information of constitutive articles and condition information charged to these articles in a tree structure for each article to be the object of the configuration. A data file in tabular format is converted into product information database. There is no division of a data conversion job into a server job and a storage job.

(f) In view of this petition, the Examiner is respectfully requested to issue a first Office Action at an early date.

Respectfully submitted,

Chun-Pok Leung Reg. No. 41,405

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP Two Embarcadero Center, 8th Floor San Francisco, California 94111-3834

Tel: 650-326-2400 Fax: 415-576-0300 Attachments

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